in order to bring them in tune with the emerging needs of the economy such as increasing production, productivity, employment etc. The required changes in the labour laws are accomplished by the Government after detailed consultation with the social partners with a view to harmonize the interests of all stake holders. Accordingly, Bill to amend Acts, like the Factories Act, 1948, the Labour Laws (Exemption from Furnishing Returns and maintaining registers by Certain Establishments) Act, 1988, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Plantations Labour Act, 1951 have been introduced in the Parliament.

Use of amount collected as cess for construction workers

1035. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Government has collected Rs. 140 crores from builders as cess over the years in terms of "Building and Other Construction Workers Cess Act, 1996";

(b) if so, how much has been spent from this amount to improve matters for construction workers who work in harsh conditions and are without a safety net; and

(c) whether the Government of India is having any monitoring mechanism to ensure that workers' welfare, from the Cess under the above Act, who are beneficiaries of the intended welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Cess amounting to Rs. 1,92,47,86,599 (Rupees One hundred ninety two crores forty seven lakhs Eighty six thousand five hundred ninety nine only) has been collected.

(b) Delhi Building and Other Construction Welfare Board has spent Rs. 68,45,548 (Rupees Sixty eight lakhs forty five thousands and five hundred forty eight only) on Welfare Schemes of the Board.

(c) Region wise meetings at regular interval are being held under the chairpersonship of Union Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment, to advise the State Governments for the utilization of cess for the welfare of construction workers registered by the concerned Welfare Boards and monitor the progress in the implementation of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana

1036. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the scheme for providing health insurance under the recently launched heath scheme "Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana" for people living below the poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL families (a unit of five) in Unorganised Sector was launched on 1st October, 2007. The scheme has become operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is being reviewed from time to time. Consequent to such reviews, the following policy decisions have been taken:-

(i) The premium would be shared in the ratio of 90:10 between Centre and the State in the North East States and Jammu and Kashmir as against 75:25 in other States.

(ii) Inclusion of Maternity Benefit in the scheme.

Proceedings by RPF Commissioner against ONGC at Palavasna, Mehsana

1037. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Regional PF Commissioner (I), RO, Ahmedabad, Gujarat State had initiated proceedings under Section 7-A of the EPF and MP Act, 1952 against M/s. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation at Palavasna, Mehsana;

(b) if so, the status of the proceedings as on today;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Regional PF Commissioner had called for certain details *vide* his letter dated 22nd February, 2006 from the above ONGC office; and

(d) if the answer to Part 'c' above in affirmative, what is the information from the management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the proceeding it was decided that the issue regarding compliance of contractors needs to be separately examined after going through their individual files and hence section 7A proceedings against ONGC, Mehsana were not proceeded with further.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) List of contractors had been furnished by the management.